REMARKS

The paragraph following the sub-heading "CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS" has been amended to provide the Examiner with the current status of U.S. Serial No. 10/031,026 and to add reference to its related divisional applications.

The Examiner is also advised that a non-statutory double patenting rejection has been made by the Examiner examining U.S. Serial No. 10/729,437 in view of this application.

The attached replacement sheets include Figs. 23-26. These sheets replace the corresponding sheets of drawings originally filed on December 5, 2003. In accordance with the Examiner's April 23, 2004 request for corrected drawings, Figs. 24-26 of the attached replacement sheets have been amended to include the legend "Prior Art".

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first-class mail in an envelope addressed to:

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Commissioner for Patents
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on July 15, 2004

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